Consequences of the Cold War

United States

- Formed military alliance called North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- Entered disarmament talks with Soviet Union
- President Reagan proposed "Star Wars" missile defense system against nuclear attack.
- Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) and Central Treaty Organization (CENTO) formed to strengthen U.S. alliances.
- Established military bases around the world
- Bay of Pigs Invasion against Cuba in 1961
- Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962
- Developed containment policy against communism
- Senator McCarthy led a hunt for communists, later called McCarthyism.
- House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) sought to expose communist sympathizers.

Europe

- The Cold War divided Europe—communists ruled in the East and democracies were in the West.
- Berlin divided between East Germany and West Germany.
- East Germany built Berlin Wall to halt flow of people to the West.
- In 1956, Eastern Europeans challenged Soviet rule and sought economic reforms in Poland and Hungary.
- In the 1960s, Britain and France developed nuclear weapons.
- Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) signed to limit spread of the arms race.

Soviet Union

- Created military alliance called the Warsaw Pact
- Developed nuclear weapons in 1949
- Formed alliances with African, Asian, and other governments, later known as Soviet bloc
- Assisted communist forces in China and Korea
- Fidel Castro sought support from Soviet Union after Cuban Revolution.
- Nikita Khrushchev called for "peaceful coexistence" with the West.
- Critics of communism faced arrest and imprisonment under Leonid Brezhnev.
- Era of détente ended with 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

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